

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-18 will have been canceled and claims 19-25 will have been submitted for consideration by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding rejections of the claims pending in the present application. Such action is respectfully requested and is now believed to be appropriate and proper.

Initially, Applicant would like to express appreciation to the Examiner for the detailed Official Action provided, for the acceptance of the drawings filed in the present application on June 13, 1999, and for the acknowledgment of Applicant's claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document in the Official Action.

Additionally, Applicant has also filed an Information Disclosure Statement in the present application on June 14, 2000, December 7, 2000, November 7, 2002 and October 7, 2002. Further, while the PTO-326 cover sheet of the outstanding Office Action indicated that a number of PTO-1449 Forms were attached thereto, copies of initialed and signed PTO-1449 Forms which were attached to the above-noted Information Disclosure Statement have in fact not been received. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner send copies of the initialed and signed PTO-1449 Forms to Applicant with the next Official Action.

In addition, in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on September 29, 1999, a number of copending applications were brought to the Examiner's attention. Thus, Applicant further requests confirmation that these applications have been reviewed by the Examiner.

Turning to the merits of the action, The Examiner has rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. As noted above, Applicant has canceled these claims and thus respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5-15, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as anticipated by BOBO (U.S. Patent No. 5,675,507). The Examiner rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over BOBO in view of KUMER et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,240,445). The Examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over BOBO in view of KUMER et al. and further in view of NAYLOR et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0062363). The Examiner rejected claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over BOBO in view of TANAKA, MIYOSHI (JP 4 06141122A). As noted above, Applicant has canceled these rejected claims and respectfully submits that these rejections have thus been rendered moot.

Nevertheless, regarding the rejection of claims 1, 2, 5-15, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by BOBO, Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejection

and will discuss this rejection with respect to the presently pending claims in the present application, as will be set forth hereinbelow.

Applicant notes that the newly added claim 19 is related to canceled claim 2, the newly added claim 22 is related to canceled claim 11, the newly added claim 24 is related to canceled claim 17 and the newly added claim 25 is related to canceled claim 18, but these newly added claims have been revised for clarity and easier reading. Further, these newly added claims are not intended to limit or narrow the subject matter claimed in the above-canceled claims, but to merely clarify the subject matter recited in the above-canceled claims.

In the above-noted rejection, the Examiner asserts that regarding claim 2, BOBO discloses an image transmitting apparatus comprising filing means for filing image data by unit of page (col. 11, lines 11-14), registering means for registering a filed image to a server apparatus (col. 11, lines 32-55), informing means for transmitting an e-mail including a server address of said server apparatus to a recipient to which said image data should be transmitted (col. 8, lines 22-30), and registering means that generates image data to be transmitted in a plurality of data formats having a standard data format and a non-standard data format, and registers image data to said server apparatus (col. 19, lines 63-67 and col. 20, lines 1-5).

Also, the Examiner asserts that regarding claim 11, BOBO discloses an image receiving apparatus comprising address extracting means for extracting a server address by

use of an e-mail received from an image transmitting apparatus, image obtaining means for obtaining an image file by unit of page by accessing to a server apparatus using the server address (cols. 7-9), and when image files are registered to the server apparatus in a plurality of data formats, the image obtaining means selects an image file of a data format suitable for an own processing capability and obtains the selected image file (cols. 7-9).

Also, the Examiner asserts that regarding claim 17, BOBO discloses an image transmitting method comprising the steps of filing image data by unit of page (col. 11, lines 11-14), generating a menu screen in which a file name of image data is registered in a form of a structured document (col. 8, lines 8-30), registering said filed image data and said menu screen to a server apparatus (col. 8, lines 8-30), and transmitting an e-mail including a server address of said server apparatus to a recipient to which said image data should be transmitted (col. 8, lines 22-30).

Also, the Examiner asserts that regarding claim 18, BOBO discloses an image receiving method comprising the steps of receiving an e-mail including a server address to which image data to itself is registered, extracting the server address from the received e-mail, accessing to a server apparatus using the extracted server address so as to obtain a menu screen, and obtaining image data by unit of page using said menu screen (col. 7-9).

Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejection.

In particular, Applicant's claims relate to an image data transmitting apparatus that has a memory in which an e-mail address of a recipient and an address of a server corresponding to the e-mail address of the recipient are stored, and converts image data into a plurality of file formats, the data of each file format including all of the image data. The image transmitting apparatus determines the server corresponding to the recipient when the e-mail address of the recipient is input, transmits to the server the data in the plurality of file formats and transmits to the recipient, by e-mail, the address of the server in which the data in the plurality of file formats corresponding to the image data is stored. It is respectfully submitted that the features recited in Applicant's claims 19-21 and 24 are not disclosed in BOBO cited by the Examiner.

Applicant's invention is further directed to an image receiving apparatus connected to an image transmitting apparatus through a network including at least one server. The server is configured to store image data to be received in a plurality of file formats, data of each file format including all of the of the image data. The image receiving apparatus receives an e-mail having an address of a server in which the image data to be received is stored, accesses the server by using said address to select image data that is stored in a file format corresponding to the capability of the image receiving apparatus and to extract the image data of said selected file format from said server. It is respectfully submitted that the

features recited in Applicant's claims 22 and 25 are not also disclosed in BOBO cited by the Examiner.

BOBO converts messages into HTML and transmits the HTML files over the Internet to the computer. However, in BOBO, the apparatus that converts the messages into the HTML format is not the image transmitting apparatus such as, e.g., the facsimile machine 24, telephone set 26, or computer 28, but a server-like device such as MSDS 10 which is connected downstream of the central office 20. Further, MSDS 10 can just select one type of format from a plurality of types of formats when it converts messages (col. 11, lines 10-31), but doesn't convert the same message into a plurality of file formats, each file format including all of the image data so that a recipient can select from the server, the data in a file format corresponding to the image receiving apparatus' capability. There is no indication that MSDS10 converts the same message into a plurality of file formats, each file format including all of the image data. BOBO teaches converting the data into any one file format, but not into a plurality of file formats, each file format containing all of the image data.

BOBO can also transmit the information through the Internet to the user when the user requests the information stored within the MSDS10, as indicated at steps 76-82 of Fig. 3. However, BOBO doesn't store image data that is converted into a plurality of file formats and a recipient can't select image data that is converted into the file format corresponding to its own capability from the image data that is stored in the plurality of file formats. There

is no indication that BOBO discloses a receiver that can select image data that is converted into the file format corresponding to its own capability from image data that is converted into a plurality of file formats.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection and an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application in due course.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

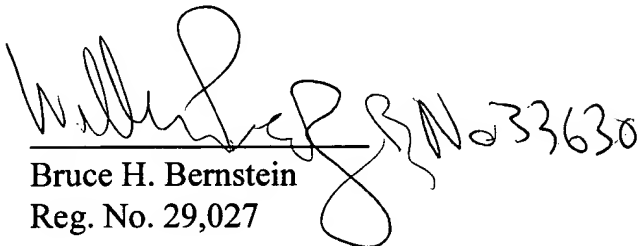
Applicant has made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believe that he has now done so. Applicant has canceled the rejected claims and has submitted new claims for consideration by the Examiner. With respect to the new claims, Applicant has pointed out the features thereof and has contrasted the features of the new claims with the disclosure of the references. Accordingly, Applicant has provided a clear evidentiary basis supporting the patentability of all claims in the present application and respectfully requests an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application in due course.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

P18153.A07

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this Response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Toshihisa SAWADA


Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

June 25, 2003
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191